

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : (a) Yes.

(b) Rs. (60) sixty per mensem.

(c) In view of answer to (b) this does not arise.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know whether this amount of Rs 60 is for defraying expenses towards rent for the District Court alone or for the District Court and the Munsiff's Court ?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : That refers to the rent for the new buildings taken on lease and occupied by the District Court.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know whether the member is aware that the District Munsiff's Court at Mavelikara is also housed in the very same building ?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : Yes, Sir.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : So may I take it that the amount of Rs. 60 shown here is intended both for the District Court and the Munsiff's Court ?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : Yes, Sir.

Site for the District Court, Mavelikara.

17. **MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether they have decided to acquire a site for the District Court, Mavelikara ;

(b) whether any site is chosen for that purpose ; and

(c) if so, the site chosen ?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : (a) The question is under consideration.

(b) and (c) In view of answer to (a), these do not arise.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI : May I know whether anybody has inspected the Court ?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : Yes, Sir.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI : May I know whether any report has been sent on it ?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : Yes, Sir.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN : May I know whether Government have decided to transfer the District Court from its present site ?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : No, Sir.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN : May I know whether Government are aware that at present there is too much of congestion regarding accommodation in the District Court at Mavelikara ?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : To some extent the Government are aware of that and some steps are being taken to enlarge the accommodation necessary for the purpose.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : May I know whether any representation has been received by Government praying that they may be pleased to shift the District Court at Mavelikara to some other place ?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI : The matter has been for some time under the consideration of Government and an investigation was made. But as to whether this specific representation has been received, I am not now in a position to say.

Vo. XVIII. No. 3.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether a representation has been submitted to Government by the Bar Association, Chengannur before the closing of the court for the midsummer recess in regard to this matter?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: I claim notice. I may add by way of assurance that steps are being taken for the purpose of fixing up another site for the housing of the District Court. That matter is under the consideration of Government.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: My question is not about the change of location of the court at Mavelikara. May I know whether Government have received any representation to shift the court from Mavelikara to Chengannur or Pandalam? May I know whether any particular representation has been received to that effect?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: Yes, Sir.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether there was any conflict of public opinion in regard to location of the court at Mavelikara?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: One section of the public contends that it should be at Mavelikara; another section of the public wants it at Chengannur; a third section contend that it should be at some other place; each section makes representation to that section's advantage. Government have finally decided to locate it at Mavelikara. At present they have no idea to shift it from Mavelikara.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: So am I to take it that there was a representation to the effect that a District Court should be established at Pandalam?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: It was represented that the court should be taken over to Chengannur.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the reason which weighed with Government for fixing the District Court at Mavelikara centre and not at any other place as is now seen?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: That is an old matter and was under the consideration of Government for some time. After fully enquiring into the matter and considering all the attendant circumstances, Government have decided that the District Court should be set up at Mavelikara and not at Chengannur.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI (*Tovala cum Agastiswaram*): Sir, on a point of order. The question set down in the order paper relates to the site for the District Court at Mavelikara. The discussion here relates to the fixing up a court either at Mavelikara or at Chengannur or Pandalam. Are we justified to go away from the track of discussion?

PRESIDENT: Very meticulous standards cannot be looked into at the present juncture in respect of this question.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether the circumstances which necessitated the fixing of the District Court at the Mavelikara centre are still in existence just at present?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: Whatever circumstances were in existence at the time of establishing the court at Mavelikara are still continuing to exist even now and Government are not yet in a position to say that those circumstances have changed.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Is the member aware of the reason alleged by the Law's Delays Commissioner for establishing a court at Mavelikara?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: The honourable member himself can refer to it.

PRESIDENT: The question is very simple. Government have received representations on the matter and they were all referred to the High Court who more than once decided and recommended that the District Court should be established at Mavelikara. Rightly or wrongly Government adopted that position and steps have been taken to establish the court at Mavelikara. As is stated, it is much better that Government themselves commit now and again some mistakes. They do not know what the real position is from day to day and that being the case they have come to the conclusion that the court will be kept in Mavelikara.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: The object of my putting the question was this. The only reason alleged for fixing Mavelikara as a District Court centre was the inclusion of two District Munsiff Courts, namely, Kayancolam and Haripad within its jurisdiction. Now, both these courts are not included. That is the reason for my asking more supplementary questions.

PRESIDENT: Speaking for myself I consider that already the District Courts are too many in number and one or two would be enough for the whole State such as this. From another consideration, some more courts have come into being. Apart from it, let me examine. What is the distance between Mavelikara and Chengannur compared with the distance from Virudhanagar to Ramnad or Madura. Why should the location of the courts be at much more than 20 miles distance here when it is more than 101 miles or so elsewhere? Viewed from that light I consider that really this State does not want more than one or two District Courts if only the Judges would do more work. After all, what is the distance between Chengannur and Mavelikara?

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI: It is only 7 miles.

PRESIDENT: That is the position. Government are seriously considering whether there should be all these courts and whether some curtailment could not be effected by abolishing one or two courts.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: My complaint is not with regard to the distance between the places. I was only trying to find out the reason for not including the Kayamcolam and Haripad Munsiff Courts within the jurisdiction of Mavelikara.

PRESIDENT: I dare say your arguments are excellent. But Government having arrived at a very wrong decision will have to adhere to that. That is the position now.